

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

1. SUMMARY: AFTER A MONTH IN OFFICE NEW GOVERNMENT CONTINUES [ILLEG] WITH INTERNAL POLITICS AND MANEUVERING. SITUATION APPEARS UNSTABLE WITH LITTLE POWER STRUGGLE BETWEEN DAUD AND YOUNG OFFICERS ON CENTRAL COMMITTEE. SENIOR MILITARY AND ESPECIALLY POLICE, SAID TO BE ANGERED AND HUMILIATED BY PROMOTIONS AND HIGH COMMANDS GIVEN TO JUNIOR OFFICERS. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OPPOSITION TO GENERALLY UNKNOWN AND TO ALL APPEARANCES INCOMPETENT CABINET IS INCREASING AND MAY [ILLEG] TO BE MAJOR FACTOR IN TURNING PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST REGIME. FOR MOMENT KABUL AND PROVINCES ARE GENERALLY CALM BUT GOVERNMENT DECISION [ILLEG]

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AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS EXCEPT FOR DAY-TO-DAY
ROUTINE NEAR PARALYZED. END SUMMARY.

RUMORS ARE RIFE AS TO CAUSE OF
OUTBREAK AND IDENTITY OF PARTIES INVOLVED WITH MANY PEOPLE
BELIEVING THAT MULLAHS WERE BEHIND IT. REPORTS INDICATE
THAT SOME 20 PEOPLE WERE KILLED. THERE ARE MULTIPLE REPORTS
OF SERIOUS DISSATISFACTION [ILLEG] POLICE OFFICERS. [LINE
EXCISED]

AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS EXCEPT FOR DAY-TO-DAY ROUTINE
NEAR PARALYZED. END SUMMARY.

2. DAUD AND PRINCIPAL ADVISORS, (INCLUDING HIS BROTHER HAIM AND DEPUTY
FOREIGN MINISTER HAK WAHID ABDULLAH) APPARENTLY ARE STILL SPENDING
MAJOR PORTION OF THEIR TIME IN EFFORTS TO CONSOLIDATE POWER AND
CONTROL. BACKSTAGE MANEUVERING IS SAID TO BE INTENSE AND ALMOST ALL
SENIOR AND MIDDLE LEVEL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE, IN TRUE AFGHAN
FASHION, LYING LOW AND REFUSING TO MAKE ANY DECISIONS WHICH COULD BE
JUDGED CONTROVERSIAL. DAY-TO-DAY WORK IS GOING ON BUT DAUD ADVISORS
REPORT THAT OFFICIALS WITH WHOM THEY DEAL ARE UNCERTAIN AND SOMETIMES
COMPLETELY IN THE DARK AS WHAT OVERALL COURSE GOVERNMENT WILL PURSUE.
NO ECONOMIC OR DEVELOPMENT POLICIES HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED AND IT IS
EVIDENT THAT GOVERNMENT EITHER HAS NOT YET FOCUSED ON THESE BASIC QUESTIONS
OR INTERNAL STRUGGLE IS GOING ON OVER PHILOSOPHY OF BASIC FUNDAMENTAL
APPROACH TO ECONOMY. FOR THE MOMENT, DAUD APPEARS TO BE GAINING IN
POWER BUT SITUATION STILL CONTAINS LARGE ELEMENTS OF INSTABILITY AND
OUTCOME BY NO MEANS CERTAIN.

3. NIGHT OF AUGUST 8 REPORTEDLY SAW VIOLENCE BREAK OUT IN ANGEL CLASH
BETWEEN SOLDIERS AND UNKNOWN GROUP OF PEOPLE (SOME SAY POLICE, SOME SAY
DISSIDENT ARMY GROUP) EVIDENTLY ATTEMPTING TO STEAL WEAPONS FROM MILITARY
ENCAMPMENT AREA WITHIN KABUL. REPORTS ARE MIXED AS TO CAUSE OF OUTBREAK
AND IDENTITY OF PARTIES INVOLVED WITH MANY PEOPLE BELIEVING THAT
MULLAHS WERE BEHIND IT. REPORTS INDICATE THAT SOME 50 PEOPLE WERE KILLED.
THERE ARE MULTIPLE REPORTS OF SERIOUS DISSENT FROM POLICE AND

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[WORDS EXCISED]

FURTHER

MORE, THE ANNOUNCEMENT AND THE CANCELLATION OF [ILLEG] CELEBRATION WHICH SET FORTH IN TERMS OF CONSERVING FINANCIAL RESOURCES IS POPULARLY BELIEVED TO STEM FROM GOVERNMENT'S SECURITY CONCERNS.

4. STORIES CONTINUE TO SURFACE AS TO ORIGINS OF COUP AND MOTIVATIONS OF MAIN PLOTTERS [WORDS EXCISED] MANY AFGHANS BELIEVE RUSSIANS EITHER HAD ROLE IN COUP ITSELF (PERHAPS PRIOR KNOWLEDGE) OR NOW RPT NOW HAVE GREATER INFLUENCE WITH DAUD GOVERNMENT THAT WITH MONARCHY. WHILE NO CONCRETE EVIDENCE HAS TURNED UP TO SUPPORT EITHER CONTENTION, MISSION BELIEVES THAT WE SHOULD REMAIN ALERT TO POSSIBILITY SOME FORM OF GREATER INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS. ARGUMENTS THAT SOVIETS NOT RPT NOT INVOLVED IN COUP BECAUSE USSR HAD LITTLE TO GAIN FROM REGIONALLY DESTABILIZING CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT, AND GIVEN THEIR OTHER, GREATER, OVERALL INTERESTS IN REGION, WHILE [ILLEG] LOGICAL MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE THE CASE. AN ISLAMIC SOCIALIST STATE OF AFGHANISTAN, WHICH CONCEIVABLE, ESPECIALLY IF DAUD [ILLEG] AND YOUNG OFFICERS TAKE OVER COMPLETELY, MIGHT HAVE BEEN WORTH THE RISK IN SOVIET VIEW. EVEN IF NOT INITIAL SOVIET PLAN, IT MIGHT NOW OR LATER PRESENT A TEMPTING TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY.

5. SUPPORT FOR MONARCHY: AFGHAN PEOPLE APPEAR TO HAVE WHOLEHEARTEDLY ADOPTED IDEA OF REPUBLIC, ALTHOUGH POCKETS OF RESISTANCE TO PRESENT LEADERSHIP REPORTEDLY EXIST. CONCEPT OF REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN PROCLAIMED BY

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[SAME PAGE]

ALMOST ALL FACTIONS AS GREAT IMPROVEMENT OVER WHAT IS ALMOST
UNIVERSALLY BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN CORRUPT, INEFFICIENT, AND
INEPT EVEN THOUGH, IN [WORDS ILLEG] TO UNDERSTAND
THE CONCEPT OF REPUBLIC, THUS, POSSIBILITY [WORDS ILLEG]
SHAH'S BEING ABLE TO STAGE A COMEBACK EVEN IF PRESENT REGIME
FAILS WHILE NEVER STRONG

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 MORE, THE ANNOUNCEMENT AND THEN COMING OUT OF THEIR COLLECTION WHICH SET FORTH IN TERMS OF COMMON SENSE AND LOGIC, IS POPULARLY BELIEVED TO BE FROM GOVERNMENT SECURITY CONCERNS. STORIES

4. SINKING CONTINUE IN FORCE AS GOVERNMENT OF COUP AND MOTIVATIONS OF MAIN PLAYERS [REDACTED] SOME PERSONS BELIEVE

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 RUSSIANS EITHER HAD ROLE IN COUP ITSELF (THROUGH PERSONS INVOLVED) OR

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SOME FORM OF GREATER SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS.

ARGUMENTS THAT SOVIETS NOT RPT NOT INVOLVED IN COUP BECAUSE USSR HAD

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VIEW. EVEN IF NOT INITIAL SOVIET PLAN, IT MIGHT NOW OR LATER PRESENT A

TEMPING TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY.

5. SUPPORT FOR MEANING AFGHAN PEOPLE SEEM TO HAVE REJECTED

ADOPTED IDEA OF REPUBLIC. AFGHAN PEOPLE SEEM TO HAVE REJECTED

LEADERSHIP PROPOSED BY [REDACTED] OF AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

BEEN PROCLAIMED BY [REDACTED] OF [REDACTED]

ALMOST UNIVERSAL [REDACTED] OF [REDACTED]

EVEN THOUGH, IN [REDACTED] OF [REDACTED]

CONCEPT OF REPUBLICANISM [REDACTED] OF [REDACTED]

STAGE CONCEPT [REDACTED] OF [REDACTED]

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IS EVEN WEAKER NOW. HE REPORTEDLY STILL HAS SUPPORTERS
AMONG MULLAHS AND SOME TRIBAL GROUPS BUT LARGE MAJORITY OF
PEOPLE WOULD NOT WELCOME RETURN OF MONARCHY.

(A) PUBLIC HEALTH MINISTER, PROFESSOR DR. MOHAMMAD SEKANDAR
HAS APPROVED TWO USAID PROJECTS (MANAGEMENT TEAM AND NURSING
PROJECT) BUT GENERAL DECISION MAKING AT PRESIDENT LEVEL
PARALYZED FOR TIME BEING AS OFFICIALS AWAIT WHAT THEY FELT
TO BE INEVITABLE FIRINGS.

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IS EVEN WEAKER NOW. HE REPORTEDLY STILL HAS SUPPORTERS AMONG MULLAS AND SOME TRIBAL GROUPS BUT LARGE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE WOULD NOT WELCOME RETURN OF MONARCHY. HOWEVER, KING HAS NOT ABDICATED, AND THUS IS STILL RETAINING HIS OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

6. PERFORMANCE OF NEW GOVERNMENT: ALTHOUGH CABINET HAS BEEN IN OPERATION TWO WEEKS, MOST MINISTRIES STILL FUNCTIONING ONLY MARGINALLY. IT IS EVIDENT THAT MOST CABINET SLOTS FILLED FOR TRADITIONAL AFGHAN REASONS OF POWER POLITICS, FRIENDSHIPS, FAMILY RELATIONS AND REWARDS TO MILITARY WHO TOOK PART IN COUP, WITH EXCEPTION OF MINISTER OF EDUCATION (ALTHOUGH HE ALSO REWARDED FOR PROBABLY SERVING AS "INSIDE MAN" IN FORMER GOVERNMENT). LITTLE THOUGHT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO OVERALL COMPETENCE, NOT TO MENTION TECHNICAL CAPABILITY, AND AS SUCH REPRESENTS SIGNIFICANT STEP BACKWARDS IN GENERAL MODERNIZATION PROCESS. IN HIS PREVIOUS REGIME (1953-6) DAUD HIMSELF PROVIDED LEADERSHIP, DRIVE AND DECISION-MAKING ABILITY FOR MOST OF GOVERNMENT MODERNIZATION EFFORT BUT THE WORLD IS MORE COMPLEX NOW AND DAUD DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE AS FIRMLY IN CONTROL AS THEN. STRONG PROBABILITY EXISTS OF SEVERAL MONTHS PERIOD OF STAGNANCY AND INEFFICIENCY (IN RELATIVE AFGHAN CONTEXT OF COURSE) ON PART OF MOST MINISTRIES, EVEN IF GOVERNMENT BEGINS TO ANNOUNCE MAJOR POLICIES, MANY OF THE MINISTRIES WILL BE INCAPABLE OF FOLLOWING THEM UP. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE INCREASING REPORTS THAT WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS ALL DEPUTY MINISTERS AND SOME SENIOR PRESIDENTS WILL BE REPLACED. IF NEW APPOINTMENTS ARE OF SAME CALIBER AS PREVIOUS MINISTERIAL ONES THEN PROBLEMS WILL BE COMPOUNDED.

(A) PUBLIC HEALTH MINISTER, PROFESSOR DR. MOHAMMAD SEKANDAR HAS APPROVED TWO USAID PROJECTS (MALARIA CONTROL AND RICE PROJECT) BUT GENERAL DECISION-MAKING AT PRESIDENT LEVEL PARALYZED FOR TIME BEING AS OFFICIALS AWAIT WHAT THEY FEEL TO BE INEVITABLE FIRINGS.

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D. FINANCE: MINISTER SAYED ABDUL FL'AH IS ATTEMPTING TO
INFORM HIMSELF OF VARIOUS MINISTRY PROGRAMS BUT IS HAMPERED
BY LACK OF RESPECT AND SERIOUSNESS WITH [ILLEG] VIEW HIS
APPOINTMENT, ALTHOUGH HE IS MEMBER OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE.
MINISTRY IS NOT OPERATING AT ALL AT PRESIDENT-DEPARTMENT
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MINISTER HAS VISITED BY AIR SOME PROVINCIAL HEALTH CENTERS NOTABLY MAP (MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) PROJECT IN YAKULANG AND EXPRESSED APPROVAL AND SATISFACTION.

(B) EDUCATION: MINISTER MEHMETULLAH FAZMAK HAS TAKEN FIRM CONTROL BUT ADMITS THAT MOST OF HIS TIME STILL BEING TAKEN UP WITH "POLITICAL QUESTIONS". USAID PROJECTS ARE, HOWEVER, MOVING WELL WITH CURRICULUM AND TEXTBOOK PROJECT COMMITTEES OPERATING IN REASONABLY NORMAL FASHION AND EITHER PRESIDENT OR DEANS OF KABUL UNIVERSITY RECEIVING PERMISSION TO TRAVEL TO U.S. FOR CONTRACT SELECTION PROCESS FOR INTERIM KU PROJECT. WORLD BANK SURVEY TEAM UNDERTAKING MAJOR EXAMINATION OF EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ARRIVED ON SCHEDULE WITH SPECIFIC GOVERNMENT APPROVAL. NOTE: MINISTER HAS SAID THAT NEW MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROPOSED BY PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE DROPPED AND ALL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES WILL REMAIN UNDER HIS CONTROL.

(C) JUSTICE: MINISTER, DR. ABDUL FAJID IS MOVING TO GATHER IN UNDER MINISTRY ADMINISTRATION FORMERLY INDEPENDENT JUDICIAL FUNCTION NOW OUTLAWED BY DECREE (REF B). HE IS ACTING WITH CONFIDENCE AND APPEARS TO BE ONE OF MORE CAPABLE OF CABINET MINISTERS WITH SOME DEGREE OF SUPPORT AMONG POPULACE.

(D) FINANCE: MINISTER MEHMETULLAH FAZMAK IS ATTEMPTING TO INFORM HIMSELF OF VARIOUS MINISTRY PROGRAMS BUT IS HAMPED BY LACK OF EXPERIENCE AND SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH HE VIEW HIS APPOINTMENT. ALTHOUGH HE IS MEMBER OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, MINISTRY IS NOT OPERATING AT ALL AT PRESIDENT-DEPARTMENT HEAD

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QUESTIONS STILL MUST BE REFERRED TO PRESIDENT. NO PROGRESS
AS YET IN INDUCING GOVERNMENT TO FOCUS ON RENEWAL OF AID
BILATERAL THAT EXPIRED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO.

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LEVEL, ALTHOUGH AID REVENUE ADMINISTRATION PROJECT IS PROGRESSING NORMALLY WITH TRAINING SCHEDULE AND PROVINCIAL TRAVEL. THERE IS MUCH TALK WITHIN MINISTRY OF EXCHANGE CONTROL SYSTEM BUT OUTCOME IS MORE UNCERTAIN. (REF C) PRESIDENT OF CUSTOMS AYUBI, FRIEND AND FORMER TEACHER OF MINISTER HAS GAINED GOOD DEAL OF POWER WITHIN MINISTRY AND MAY BE IN LINE FOR HIGHER POSITION, POSSIBLY DEPUTY MINISTER.

(E) AGRICULTURE: MINISTER GHULAM JAILANAI BAKHTARI SEEMS FIRMLY IN CONTROL AND HAS EXPRESSED HIS INTEREST IN RETAINING SUBSTANTIAL AMERICAN ASSISTANCE FOR MINISTRY. HOWEVER, HE AND DEPUTY MINISTER GHAFFOR HAVE BEGUN TO QUESTION BOTH ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND PROFIT MARGINS OF AID-FINANCED AFGHAN FERTILIZER COMPANY AS WELL AS UNDERLYING CONCEPT OF DISTRIBUTION BY PRIVATE SECTOR. SITUATION HAS POTENTIAL OF BEING SERIOUS PROBLEM IN FUTURE. HOWEVER, COUNTERING INFORMATION HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE BOTH TO MINISTER AND PRESIDENT DAUD. (SEPTTEL).

(F) FOREIGN AFFAIRS: WAHID ABDULLAH, VERY CLOSE AND LONG TIME FRIEND AND ADHERENT OF PRESIDENT WITH READY ACCESS TO HIM, HAS BEEN APPOINTED DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER WITH DAUD STILL RETAINING MINISTER'S PORTFOLIO FOR HIMSELF. DECISION MAKING REMAINS BEGINNING TO PICK UP A LITTLE ON MINISTERS ROUTINE MATTERS (VISAS), BUT BIG QUESTIONS STILL MUST BE REFERRED TO PRESIDENT. NO PROGRESS AS YET IN BRINGING GOVERNMENT TO FOCUS ON RESUMPTION OF AID BILATERAL THAT REQUIRED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO.

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(G) PLANNING: NO APPOINTMENT MADE YET WHICH WE BELIEVE IS INDICATIVE THAT DAUD INTENDS TO CARRY THROUGH WITH CONCEPT OF CENTRALIZING PLANNING FUNCTION UNDER PRESIDENT AND ALLOW MINISTRY TO WITHER AWAY, BUT WITHOUT ANY FORMAL ACTION BEING TAKEN. LARGE AID-FINANCED STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (SUNY) DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY PROJECT MOVING AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

FOR A ROLE FOR PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN ECONOMY AND WE HAVE HEARD FROM SEVERAL OTHER SOURCES THAT PRIVATE INVESTORS ARE NOT PESSIMISTIC OF THEIR CHANCES UNDER DAUD ALTHOUGH LOCAL TRADERS AND MERCHANTS ARE FEELING THE PINCH OF CURRENCY CONTROLS (REF C). NEW GOVERNMENT HAS IMPLEMENTED ARTICLE 16 OF INVESTMENT LAW REQUIRING ALL GOVERNMENTAL BODIES TO BUY DOMESTIC RATHER THAN IMPORTED PRODUCTS IF AVAILABLE AND COMPETITIVE BOTH IN QUALITY AND PRICE. PREVIOUS

(G) PLANNING: NO APPOINTMENT YET YET WHICH WE BELIEVE IS INDICATIVE THAT DAUD INTENDS TO CARRY THROUGH WITH CONCEPT OF CENTRALISING PLANNING FUNCTION UNDER PRESIDENT AND ALLOW MINISTRY TO WITHER AWAY, BUT WITHOUT ANY FORMAL ACTION BEING TAKEN. LARGE AID-FINANCED STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (SUNY) DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY PROJECT MOVING AHEAD AS SCHEDULED.

(H) COMMERCE: NO MINISTER YET BUT SOME IMPORTANT DECISIONS NOW BEING MADE AND POSSIBILITY OF REASONABLY COMPETENT DEPUTY MINISTER ALI NAMAI RECEIVING APPOINTMENT IS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

(I) MINES AND INDUSTRIES: ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND ON MINISTER DR. ABDUL QAYUM MARDAK. UNDERGRADUATE AND MASTERS DEGREE IN UNITED STATES (ILLINOIS AND GEORGETOWN) AND PhD IN USSR 1940-53. HAS STUDIED NUCLEAR ENGINEERING AND HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO DEPART FOR BEIRUT FOR AN AID-FINANCED COLOQUIUM ON DAY OF COUP. MUCH UNFAVORABLE COMMENT HAS BEEN HEARD OF HIS COMPETENCY. HOWEVER, DAUD SUPPORTED PRIVATE ENTERPRISE PROGRAM APPARENTLY MOVING WELL UNDER ITS PRESIDENT YOUSSEF RAFIK WHO HAS BEEN RECONFIRMED IN OFFICE. RAFIK CLAIMS DAUD HAS GIVEN HIS PERSONAL APPROVAL TO NECESSITY FOR A ROLE FOR PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN ECONOMY AND WE HAVE HEARD FROM SEVERAL OTHER SOURCES THAT PRIVATE INVESTORS ARE NOT PESSIMISTIC OF THEIR CHANCES UNDER DAUD ALTHOUGH LOCAL TRADERS AND MERCHANTS ARE FEELING THE PUNCH OF CURRENCY CONTROLS (REF C). NEW GOVERNMENT HAS IMPLEMENTED ARTICLE 16 OF INVESTMENT LAW REQUIRING ALL GOVERNMENTAL FIRMS TO BUY GOODS AND SERVICES FROM IMPORTED PRODUCTS IF AVAILABLE AND COMPETITIVE BOTH IN QUALITY AND PRICE. PREVIOUS

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GOVERNMENT HAD REFUSED TO DO SO BOWING TO POLITICAL PRESSURE
FROM LARGE IMPORTERS.

COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH OF AFGHAN ARMY. TITLE OF ENGINEER
MEANS COLLEGE GRADUATE BUT IN THIS CASE IS EXTREMELY
SUSPECT. HIS APPOINTMENT WAS DIRECT PAYOFF FOR HIS ROLE IN
THE COUP AND HE PROBABLY CONTINUES AS A MEMBER OF CENTRAL
COMMITTEE. IS VERY YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCE AND EVIDENTLY WAS
NOT YET FOCUSED ON JOB OF RUNNING A TECHNICAL MINISTRY WITH
MANY IMPORTANT PROJECTS

GOVERNMENT HAD REFUSED TO DO SO DOWING TO POLITICAL PRESSURE.

LARGE FROM BANK IMPOSTERS. RAPIX FEELS TIME IS RIFE TO MOVE AHEAD WITH MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS IN BASIC INVESTMENT LAW AND ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM. RECENTLY OPENED INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK, WITH IDA AND FOREIGN BANK PARTICIPATION, IS FUNCTIONING NORMALLY. ALL OF THESE THE ABOVE ARE PROMISING DEVELOPMENTS BUT POSSIBILITY STILL EXISTS THAT DAUD OR HIS SUCCESSORS WILL SWITCH TO STATE-ORIENTATED APPROACH THAT CHARACTERIZED HIS LAST REGIME.

(J) INFORMATION AND CULTURE: MINISTER, PROFESSOR DR. ABDUL RAHIM KHAHIN HAS SAID HE DESIRES TO COOPERATE WITH U.S. HAS MOVED TO DISMANTLE PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT SET UP BY PREVIOUS REGIME WHICH WAS INTENDED TO KEEP PUBLIC INFORMED OF GOVERNMENT ACTIONS. INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPER, CARAVAN, HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO RESUME PUBLICATION. BEST AND FORMER GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER, ISLAH-ANIS, HAS BEEN REPLACED BY NEW DAILY CALLED JAMHURIAT (THE REPUBLIC) WHICH BEGAN PUBLICATION ON AUGUST 4 AND PRINTS ONLY STRAIGHT PARTY LINE. INDEPENDENT PRESS NO LONGER EXISTS IN AFGHANISTAN AND ALL JOURNALISTS ARE LYING LOW.

(K) COMMUNICATIONS: MINISTER, ENGINEER ABDUL RAMID HAS ONE OF PRINCIPAL IN COUP AND HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A FIRST LIEUTENANT (NOW MAJOR) IN COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH OF AFGHAN ARMY. HIS TITLE OF ENGINEER MEANS COLLEGE GRADUATE BUT IN THIS CASE IS EXTREMELY SUSPECT. HIS APPOINTMENT WAS DIRECT PAYOFF FOR HIS ROLE IN THE COUP AND HE PROBABLY CONTINUES AS A MEMBER OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE. IS VERY YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED AND EVIDENTLY HAS NOT YET FOCUSED ON AS OF HIRING A TECHNICAL MINISTRY WITH MANY IMPORTANT PROJECTS

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NOW UNDERWAY. IS EVIDENTLY ONE OF WEAKEST OF APPOINTMENTS. MINISTRY ITSELF IS SAID TO BE COMPLETELY INACTIVE WITH LITTLE ATTENTION BEING PAID TO BUSINESS.

(L) PUBLIC WORKS: MINISTER, ENGINEER GHASUDDIN WAS FORMERLY A CAPTAIN AND DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT IN OFFICE OF CONSTRUCTION OF MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. DOES NOT HOLD COLLEGE-LEVEL ENGINEERING DEGREE. IS APPROXIMATELY 45 YEARS OLD AND HAS LAGGED BEHIND HIS CONTEMPORARIES IN ARMY PROMOTIONS. HIS COMPETENCE BOTH IN OLD JPB AND IN NEW HAS BEEN SEVERELY QUESTIONED BY FELLOW OFFICERS WHO KNOW HIM. APPEARS TO BE ONE OF WEAKEST APPOINTMENTS.

(M) INTERIOR: MINISTER FAIZ MOHAMMAD WAS FORMERLY A PARATROOPER CAPTAIN IN SPECIAL FORCES UNIT AND SUPPOSEDLY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PERSUADING OFFICERS AND MEN OF THAT KEY UNIT TO SUPPORT COUP. IS ABOUT 20 YEARS OLD AND HAS SPENT 18 MONTHS IN USSR FOR TRAINING. WE UNDERSTAND FROM MINISTER OF JUSTICE ABDUL MAJID THAT ENTIRE POLICE FORCE (POLICE COME UNDER INTERIOR'S CONTROL) IS BEING REORGANIZED FOR MORE EFFICIENT OPERATION. EFFICIENCY MAY BE ONLY MOTIVE BUT MAIN REASON FOR REORGANIZATION IS THAT POLICE FORCE IS GENERALLY THOUGHT TO BE POLITICALLY UNRELIABLE AND POSSIBLE SOURCE OF OPPOSITION.

(N) FRONTIER AFFAIRS: MINISTER, ENGINEER PACHA GUL IS AIR FORCE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER AND MEMBER OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE. HE TOOK ACTIVE ROLE IN COUP BUT OTHER INFORMATION STILL LACKING.

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(M) INTERIOR MINISTER FAIR MOHAMMAD WAS FORMERLY ^{PARATROOP} CAPTAIN IN
SPECIAL FORCES UNIT AND SUPPOSEDLY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PERSUADING
OFFICERS AND MEN OF THAT KEY UNIT TO SUPPORT COUP. IS ABOUT 30
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UNDERSTAND FROM MINISTER OF JUSTICE ABDUL RAJID THAT ENTIRE
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OF OPPOSITION.

(N) MINISTER AIR FORCE, ENGINEER SAJJAD PACHA, WAS AIR FORCE
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER AND MEMBER OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. HE TOO
ACTIVE MEMBER OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

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AFGHAN EMBASSIES HAVE BEEN ORDERED NOT TO ISSUE VISAS TO
WORLD TRAVELERS ("HIPPIES" IN THEIR TERMINOLOGY) AND POLICE
ARE SEARCHING HOTELS IN EFFORT TO ROUND UP AND EXPORT
FOREIGNERS WHOSE VISAS HAVE EXPIRED. IN ADDITION, ALL
HOTELS (INCLUDING USAID STAFF HOUSE) ARE

(6) DEFENSE: DAUD CONTINUES AS MINISTER. ALL DEPARTMENTS ARE UNDER ARMY CONTROL WITH OFFICERS LOYAL TO REGIME MOVING INTO HIGHER POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY. THERE ARE REPORTS THAT GENERAL MUSTAGNI'S ROLE IS IN JEOPARDY BECAUSE OF SOME FALLING OUT WITH DAUD.

7. OTHER DEVELOPMENTS: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (AUGUST 5) NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF SOUTH VIETNAM (AUGUST 12) and PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM (AUGUST 12) HAVE ALL RECOGNIZED NEW REGIME. IN ADDITION, RADIO AFGHANISTAN, AUGUST 12, CARRIED MESSAGE OF RECOGNITION FROM "PRESIDENT SIHAMOUK OF CAMBODIA" AND EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR AFGHAN SUPPORT IN UN AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. (NOTE: PRESIDENT SIHAMOUK HAD ALSO BEEN FAVOR TREATED BY PREVIOUS REGIME.) IN JOINT EFFORT TO SOLIDIFY SUPPORT WITHIN ARMY, GOVERNMENT REINFORCED ON AUGUST 5 ALL SERGEANTS WERE PROMOTED TO RANK OF THIRD LIEUTENANT AND ALL OFFICERS WITH EXCEPTION OF GENERALS GIVEN ONE YEAR'S SENIORITY (EQUIVALENT TO YEARLY STEP INCREASE IN SALARY). SUCH A MOVE MIGHT INCREASE ARMY SUPPORT BUT IS FURTHER BLAD IN FACE TO ALREADY ALIENATED SENIOR OFFICERS. ALSO IN THAT VIETN, POLICE OFFICERS WERE NOT INCLUDED IN GENERAL RAISE IN PAY, THUS FURTHER WORSENING OF ALREADY TENSE SITUATION AS REGARDS POLICE LOYALTY. AFGHAN EMBASSIES HAVE BEEN ORDERED NOT TO ISSUE VISAS TO FREE WORLD TRAVELLERS ("HIPPIES" IN THEIR TERMINOLOGY) AND POLICE ARE SEARCHING HOTELS IN EFFORT TO ROUND UP AND DEPORT FOREIGNERS WHOSE VISAS HAVE EXPIRED. IN ADDITION, ALL HOTELS (INCLUDING USAD STAFF HOUSE) ARE

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NOW REQUIRED TO HAVE GUESTS FILL OUT REGISTRATION FORM
GIVING PASSPORT NUMBER, ETC., FOR POLICE RECORDS.
IRAQI GOODWILL DELEGATION HEADED BY MINISTER OF EDUCATION
DR. AHMAD ABDUL SATAR AL-JAWARY ARRIVED AUGUST 5 AND
DELIVERED PERSONAL MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS AND SUPPORT
FROM THE IRAQI PRESIDENT TO DAUD. DELEGATION WAS RECEIVED
BY DAUD ON AUGUST 6 AND TREATED TO GREAT DEAL OF PUBLICITY
OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

AND DELIVERED TO SAID COUNTRIES FOR THE INFORMATION OF SAID COUNTRIES
PASSPORT NUMBER 1234 FOR POLICE RECORDS.

IRAQI COUNCIL DELEGATION HEADED BY MINISTER OF EDUCATION DR.

AMMAD ABDEL KARIM AL-JABRI ARRIVED BAGHDAD 5 AND DELIVERED PERSONAL

MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS AND SUPPORT FROM THE IRAQI PRESIDENT

TO SAID. DELEGATION WAS RECEIVED BY SAID ON AUGUST 6 AND TREATED TO

GREAT DEAL OF PUBLICITY ON FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO

COUNTRIES.

RECEIVED

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